



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

RTM Rules & Procedures Committee

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager 860-441-6630

Chairperson Kate Richards, Reps. Karin Adams, Douglas Monaghan, Irma Streeter, and Michael Whitehouse

Tuesday, May 01, 2018

6:30 PM

Groton Senior Center - Classroom A

SPECIAL MEETING

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- 4. NEW BUSINESS**

2018-0111 Revise the RTM Rules to Move Committee Business

REVISE RTM RULES TO MOVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

The RTM does here by amend Section 5 of the RTM Rules of the 31st Representative Town Meeting to move item (J) Reports of Committees to the line about item (F) Report of Town Manager on the agenda.

2018-0112 Review of the Rules of the 31st RTM

REVIEW OF THE RULES OF THE 31st RTM

The RTM shall consider rule 6.5.3 in order to clarify the intent, to consider an exemption to committee review rule 6.5.2 in order to allow matters to come before the RTM for a vote without suspending the rules.

2018-0056 Three Referrals from Rep. Kotowski

Various Proposed Changes to the 31st RTM Rules and Procedures

1. Referral items to the RTM without time for consideration by a Committee may not entertain a motion to move the question during debate.
2. RTM Committee meetings shall not be held before a regular or special RTM meeting.
3. Move the start time for regular RTM meetings to 7:00 pm.

Legislative History

4/11/2018	Representative Town Meeting	Postponed to a Certain Time	RTM Rules & Procedures Commi
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Representative Kotowski made a motion to move the start time for the regular monthly meeting to 7:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Rep. Washington.

Rep. Irma Streeter stated that she is in favor of moving the start time to 7:00pm. She stated that out of fairness, at least one person on the RTM has to work and has family obligations. She stated that it is very hard for them to come in at 7:00pm.

Rep. Bordelon seconded Rep. Streeter's comments and stated that she wants to make sure that we will not lose any members because of the change.

Moderator Ebbin stated that party caucus will start at 6:30 pm and that this should be kept in mind when deciding.

In response to Rep. Marshall, Ms. Moukawsher stated that a quorum needs to be determined in order to start a meeting. She stated that the RTM has no provision to delay the start of a meeting in order to obtain a quorum. She stated that the RTM rules include a provision to call a Special Meeting.

Rep. Whitney suggested that the new start time be built in after the current budget cycle because all the budget session start at 7:00 pm except for the May 9th regular meeting. He stated that he is in support of changing to the earlier time.

Rep. Washington stated that she is in favor of the earlier start time because she works in the morning and has to get up by 5:00 am. She suggested that they eliminate the caucuses. She stated that representatives need to be independent thinkers and do what is right for their constituents.

Rep. Whitehouse asked the body if they had a problem with moving the start time to 7:00 pm. He took an informal show of hands and stated that there are about six members that have difficulty with the change.

Moderator Ebbin stated that she works and because the meeting starts a little later, it allows for conveniences

Rep. Welles stated that they are required to set their schedule for the year in December. Ms. Moukawsher stated that the RTM can change the time for their meetings within the Rules of the RTM.

Rep. Casper asked if the 10:00 pm rule would need to be changed to 9:30 pm. He stated that if the idea is to get out earlier, then this change would need to be adopted. Moderator Ebbin stated that this would be a different motion.

Rep. Chase stated that she agrees with Rep. Washington's statement that we need to be independent thinkers in reference to caucus. She stated that there are a lot of new people and that the caucus provides a lot of information.

Rep. Richards stated that she made the commitment understanding that the meetings started at 7:30 pm, although it is difficult for her. She stated that it would be more difficult for her to get here at 6:30pm.

Rep. Frickman made a motion to Move the Question. Moderator Ebbin denied the motion because there had not been ten minutes of discussion yet.

Rep. Marshall stated that we are about to enter budget season, which all meetings begin at 7:00 pm. He recommended that the item be tabled in order to test the budget schedule. He stated that he could adjust to a change.

Rep. Marshall made a motion to postponed this item until the June 13, 2018 meeting, seconded by Rep. Frickman. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Consideration of Committee Referral Items as per Referral List

6. ADJOURNMENT

For the committee to meet, we need a quorum. Please let the clerk's office (441-6644) know ASAP if you will not be able to attend this meeting.